

SITE DESCRIPTION: STOKES COUNTY INVENTORY REPORT, 1997

SITE 3 NAME: Ash Camp Creek Wetland

SIZE: 20 acres

SITE SIGNIFICANCE: County. Based on the size and location of the wetland and its animal habitat features.

QUADRANGLE: Walnut Cove, NC

LOCATION: Between SR1937 and Piney Mountain Road along Ash Camp Creek, directly west of the town of Walnut Cove, NC. Identified from the National Wetlands Inventory Maps.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is a large wetland of about 20 acres in size. Evidence of both beaver activity and siltation due to adjacent hillside logging, combined to broaden the creek into a meandering channel, isolated pools, islands and mud flats. The western edge is bounded by a 10-30 feet high bluff topped with pine forest and is adjacent to an old farm. The slopes and coves are covered with American beech with occasional, hickory, pawpaw, magnolia, ironwood and birch. The bottomland has patches of trees including birch and sycamore, red maple and tulip trees; many of the latter are dead, presumably due to the altered water level. A thick herb layer covers the drier, more solid parts of the bottomland and includes jewelweed, seedbox, sedges, rushes and vines. The north end of the wetland is invaded with weedy species like honeysuckle and privets. A small housing development is encroaching on the south end.

This wetland is home to an array of animal life, which was evidenced by several species of turtles, amphibians, ducks, and other birds. There are many diverse habitats in this area. By piedmont standards, this is a rather large wetland that functions as a wildlife habitat along a major tributary of Town Fork Creek.

OWNER: Private

PROTECTION STATUS: None